

Message Text

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PAGE 01 USUN N 06988 310101Z

71

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SUBJ: SOMALI MESSAGE TO FRENCH CONCERNING SOMALILAND

REF: USUN 6630 AND A-1529

FOLLOWING IS THE TEXT OF UNDATED MESSAGE FROM SOMALI-
PRESIDENT SAID BARRE TO FRENCH PRESIDENT, CIRCULATED TO
MISSIONS TO THE UN AT REQUEST OF SOMALI MISSION

QTE

H.E. VALERY GISCARD D'ESTAING,

PRESIDENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF FRANCE

THE PEOPLE OF FRENCH SOMALILAND BY VIRTUE OF WELL
OVER A CENTURY OF FRENCH ADMINISTRATION TODAY SHARE IN MANY
RESPECTS THE RICH CULTURAL HERITAGE AND PROGRESS OF THE PEOPLE
OF FRANCE STOP THE GROWTH AND DEVELOPMENT OF THEIR RELATION-
SHIP THROUGH THE AGES HAVE CREATED A FEELING OF UNDERSTANDING
AND MUTUAL RESPECT BETWEEN THE PEOPLES OF THE TWO COUNTRIES
STOP THE FRIENDSHIP OF THE TWO PEOPLES HAS BEEN THE TEST OF
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PAGE 02 USUN N 06988 310101Z

TIME WHEN THE PEOPLE OF FRENCH SOMALILAND FOUGHT ALONGSIDE THE

FRENCH FORCES IN THE LIBERATION OF FRANCE DURING THE SECOND
WORLD WAR STOP APART FROM THE LEGITIMATE DESIRE OF ALL PEOPLES
FOR FREEDOM AND LIBERTY IT IS ONLY NATURAL THAT THE PEOPLE OF
FRENCH SOMALILAND SHOULD HOLD AS A RESULT OF PROLONGED AND
CONTINUOUS ASSOCIATION WITH FRANCE A SENSE OF SYMPATHETIC
INCLINATION AND A FEELING OF GOODWILL TOWARDS FRANCE AND ITS
PEOPLE STOP AT THIS CRUCIAL STAGE IN THE DEVELOPMENT ON THE
TERRITORY WHEN THE FUTURE DESTINY OF THE PEOPLE OF FRENCH
SOMALILAND IS BEING DECIDED BY THE GOVERNMENT OF FRANCE IT IS
SINCERELY HOPED THAT OUR EXCELLENCY AND MEMBERS OF YOUR
GOVERNMENT WILL BE GUIDED IN YOUR DECISION MAKING BY YOUR
CONSCIENCE WHICH SHOULD DICTATE TO YOU TO TAKE CONSIDERATION
OF YOUR MORAL OBLIGATION TO RECIPROCATATE THE GOOD-WILL UNDER-
STANDING AND FRIENDSHIP OF THE PEOPLE OF THE TERRITORY BY
GRANTING A JUST AND UNCONDITIONAL INDEPENDENCE IN WHICH THE
RIGHTS OF THE MAJORITY OF THE PEOPLE IS RESPECTED STOP AS
YOUR EXCELLENCY IS NO DOUBT WELL AWARE THE GOVERNMENT OF THE
SOMALI DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC HAS ON MANY OCCASIONS SHOWN ITS
GOOD INTENTIONS TO SEEK AN UNDERSTANDING WITH THE GOVERNMENT
OF FRANCE ON THE FUTURE DESTINY OF THE PEOPLE OF FRENCH
SOMALILAND STOP THE GOVERNMENT PRECEDING YOURS INITIALLY
DISPLAYED A FAIR DEGREE OF INTEREST IN OUR WELL INTENTIONED
AND GENUINELY MOTIVATED INITIATIVES TO ENTER INTO DIRECT
TALKS ON FRENCH SOMALILAND STOP IT IS OUR SINCERE HOPE AND
DESIRE THAT YOUR EXCELLENCY WILL FIND IT OPPORTUNE AT THIS
DECISIVE STAGE IN THE TERRITORY'S POLITICAL DEVELOPMENT TO
RECOGNIZE THE NEED FOR COOPERATION AND UNDERSTANDING IN THIS
MATTER OF VITAL IMPORTANCE TO OUR TWO GOVERNMENTS AND PEOPLES
STOP FRANK AND OPEN CONSULTATIONS ON THE INDEPENDENCE OF THE
TERRITORY WILL SERVE TO STRENGTHEN THE TIES BETWEEN FRANCE AND
THE TERRITORY COMMA ENSURE SMOOTH DEMOCRATIC AND PEACEFUL
TRANSITION TO INDEPENDENCE FOR THE PEOPLE OF THE TERRITORY
AND SERVE TO CREATE A SUITABLE ATMOSPHERE FOR THE FOSTERING
OF UNDERSTANDING AND FRIENDSHIP BETWEEN OUR TWO PEOPLES AND
COUNTRIES STOP WHILE WELCOMING THE RECENT DECLARATION BY THE
GOVERNMENT OF FRANCE INDICATING ITS PREPAREDNESS TO GRANT
INDEPENDENCE TO THE SAID TERRITORY EYE TAKE THIS OPPORTUNITY
TO APPEAL TO YOUR EXCELLENCY TO INSURE THE TRANSFER OF POWER
TO THE LEGITIMATE REPRESENTATIVES OF THE PEOPLE STOP IN THE
HOPE THAT YOU WILL BE GUIDED BY YOUR COUNTRY'S PREVIOUS
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PAGE 03 USUN N 06988 310101Z

EXPERIENCE IN DECOLONIZING DEPENDENT TERRITORIES EYE TRUST
THAT YOUR ABLE STATESMANSHIP AND SENSE OF FAIRNESS WILL NOT
PERMIT YOU TO TAKE ANY DECISION WHICH WILL PROVE INIMICAL TO
THE FUTURE STABILITY AND TRANQUILITY OF THE TERRITORY AND THE
REGION STOP EYE THEREFORE HOPE THAT THE TRUE REPRESENTATIVES
OF THE MAJORITY OF THE POPULATION WILL BE CONSULTED ON ALL
ARRANGEMENTS TOUCHING UPON THE FUTURE DESTINY OF THE TERRITORY
AND THAT ALL RESTRICTIVE LAWS AND PRACTICES BE SUSPENDED IN

ORDER TO ALLOW THE PEOPLE TO FREELY EXPRESS THEIR WISHES STOP
PEACEFUL TRANSITION TO INDEPENDENCE BY THE PEOPLE OF THE TERRI-
TORY CAN ONLY BE INSURED BY THE APPLICATION OF EGALITARIAN
DEMOCRATIC PROCESSES WHICH WILL FREELY ALLOW THE PEOPLE CONCERNED
CHOOSE THE LEADERS WHO ENJOY THEIR TRUST AND CONFIDENCE IN AN
ATMOSPHERE FREE FROM COERCION COMMA HARRASSMENT COMMA PRESSURE
AND OTHER FORMS OF SUPPRESSION AIMED AT THE DENIAL OF THE BASIC
HUMAN RIGHTS AND PRIVILEGES WITHOUT WHICH NO GENUINE INDEPENDENCE
CAN BE ACHIEVED STOP THE SOMALI GOVERNMENT ON ITS PARTIES
PREPARED TO UNDERTAKE ANY STEPS AND ACTIONS NECESSARY FOR THE
ATTAINMENT OF THESE GOALS AND IS PREPARED TO COOPERATE
WITH THE GOVERNMENT OF FRANCE IN THE REALIZATION OF THESE
AIMS AND OBJECTIVES WHICH WILL NOT ONLY CONTRIBUTE TO THE
MAINTENANCE AND STRENGTHENING OF THE TRADITIONAL TIES BETWEEN
FRANCE AND THE PEOPLE OF FRENCH SOMALILAND BUT WILL ALSO
OPEN A NEW ERA OF MUTUALLY BENEFICIAL AND FRIENDLY COOPERATION
BETWEEN OUR TWO COUNTRIES COMMA FACTORS WHICH WILL PROVE RIGHTLY
CONDUCTIVE TO THE MAINTENANCE OF PEACE AND SECURITY OF THE AREA
STOP YOUR EXCELLENCY UNDOUBTEDLY REALIZES THE GRAVE CONSE-
QUENCES THAT ARE BOUND TO ENSURE IF THE GOVERNMENT OF FRANCE
INSISTS IN DISREGARDING THE WISHES OF THE VAST MAJORITY OF THE
POPULATION FOR GENUINE INDEPENDENCE AND FREEDOM STOP EYE MOST
ARDENTLY HOPE THAT YOUR EXCELLENCY WILL GIVE DUE WEIGHT TO
OUR LEGITIMATE PREOCCUPATIONS OVER THE FUTURE OF THE SAID
TERRITORY STOP ON OUR PART WE SHALL ALWAYS ENDEAVOUR AS WE
HAVE DONE IN THE PAST COMMA TO SEEK UNITY IN THE RANKS OF THE
PEOPLE OF THE TERRITORY AND WORK TOWARDS THE ACHIEVEMENTS OF
PEACEFUL AND JUST TRANSFER OF POWER IN THE INTEREST OF PEACE
AND STABILITY IN THE REGION STOP HIGHEST CONSIDERATION STOP

SIGNED BY: MAJOR-GENERAL MOHAMED SAID BARRE
PRESIDENT OF THE SUPREME
REVOLUTIONARY COUNCIL UNQTE
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PAGE 04 USUN N 06988 310101Z

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